

Juvenile Delinquency - 1929

Survey of Child Crime

General

The findings of a survey of juvenile delinquency by the Subcommittee of the Baumes Crime Commission of New York State on Causes and Effects of Crime are now available.

A study of 251 adolescents, tracing their progress from truancy to crime, indicates that the popular impression regarding crime waves is not well founded. "Estimates," the report states, made by criminologists of the proportion of the population habitually engaged in crime vary only slightly, some placing the figure at one per cent, and others at between one and two per cent.

"Crime statistics, however, indicate that this group, most of whom are repeated offenders, begin their careers at comparatively early ages and commit new offenses of increased severity and with greater frequency with advancing years. It is this development of criminal careers that constitutes a real crime wave, one which begins in childhood, increases during adolescence, continues mounting during the years of vigorous manhood, and ebbs only as old age approaches. . . . Common sense dictates that the solution lies in preventing or curing criminal tendencies among the young."

An intensive study of these 251 cases, classed as juvenile delinquents six to eight years ago, "concerns itself with the growth of the crime curve among this group, the apparent influence upon the curve of certain objectively measurable environmental factors, and the relation . . . of early childhood habits of delinquency to the growth of the curve in adolescence." All the cases were from the Borough of Manhattan, New York, and all of them "had experienced commitments to the truant school because of chronic illegal absence from school."

In general it was found that chronic truancy is, "in a disquieting number of cases, the first step in a criminal career. Fifty-one per cent of the boys required the attention of police and courts during the six to eight-year period subsequent to their release from the truant school." Thus, on the basis of estimates by criminologists "that 1 per cent of the population of the United States engage in some form of crime," the group of 251 truants during a period of from six to eight years produced 14 times as many felons as arise from a similar group of the population at large.

Felonies were committed for the most part by the sons of natives and of immigrants who have resided here many years, "whereas minor infractions were committed in greater proportion by sons of recently arrived immigrants."

"The proportion of families, one or more of whose members had police records, ranged from 43 per cent for those boys who had no records subsequent to truancy to 83 per cent for those who became felons. Thus the boys who became serious offenders had the worst criminal family backgrounds."

"On the other hand, the survey showed that almost the entire group of cases lived under conditions of extreme poverty and unusually congested housing, in homes that were broken by death or desertion of one or both parents in over one-half of the cases, and in which parental care was rendered ineffective in a large percentage of the

cases by the employment of mothers at jobs in addition to household tasks.

"The study shows therefore that most of the factors were influential only as general factors. It is true that the sordid conditions depicted were the soil from which an unusual amount of criminal behavior has sprung. It is likewise true that the conditions are similar to those to which the under-privileged group in any community are subjected, and that poverty and crime are associated in a general way. But in the group forming this study as well as among the under-privileged group in general the majority of the factors here studied throw no light on the reasons why certain families fostered criminal behavior and others did not, nor why one child reared in the same family under the self-same general conditions became a criminal and his brothers did not."

The report calls attention to the fact that "three chief methods are being used in combating crime. They are the processes of legal procedure, of social reform, and of individual study and treatment. The method of legal procedure, while necessary, is . . . apparently not effective in preventing further crime among young offenders. The method of social reform is concerned with broad measures of social welfare, aimed at general factors influencing crime, and not at specific experiences influencing criminals. The method of individual study and treatment gives the greatest promise of success in preventing crime. This method, represented in the procedure of physicians, psychiatrists, psychologists and social workers, has in recent years gained great strength in the United States, as attested to by the increasing number of philanthropic organizations, privately and publicly endowed clinics, and federal, state and municipal bureaus concerned with the study and guidance of juvenile delinquents and adult criminals."

"The individual method is concerned with the measure of individual limitations in capacity for social adjustment, with the discovery of the motives leading to anti-social behavior, and with methods of treatment that will utilize in a social way the normal drives of unadjusted persons. This method has practical limitations because of the expense involved and the lack of persons trained in its technique. . . . However, the expense and time consumed have been justified by the aid which the individual findings have given to the understanding and control of larger groups." While the expense is great, it is probably less than the annual cost of crime in the United States, which is now estimated to run into billions.

In another study the commission selected part of the area covered by District 1 of the Manhattan Children's Court having an estimated population in 1924 of 220,000. In 1920, this area contained 157,701 foreign-born white persons. In the period between 1920 and 1924 the district had 21 per cent of the population of Manhattan Borough and an average of 32 per cent of the juvenile delinquency. In 1926, the ratio of juvenile delinquency to child population from the ages 7 to 16 averaged 3.5 per hundred among boys. The ratio of arraignment before the court was 8 boys to one girl. Delinquency showed an increase with each succeeding age group. The number of arraignments of boys 14 to 15 years of age was four times as great as that for the 10 to 11 group, and the number

of arraignments of boys 16 to 17 years of age 2.5 times that of boys 14 to 15 years old. In 1926, 819 boys and 107 girls came to the attention of private and public agencies for supervision of their behavior. Serious thefts account for the arraignment of nearly one-third of the children's court cases.

The Commission points to misdirected energies and lack of wholesome play interests as one of the chief causes of the delinquency among the boys was found in areas devoted to commercial activities, and there 58 boy-rangs were discovered. The pool rooms and old fashioned ill-ventilated and dark motion picture houses appear as significant factors affecting health and morals. Inadequate facilities for recreation and bad housing play a considerable part.

Juvenile Delinquency - 1929

Augusta, Ga., Chronicle
Monday, February 11, 1929

MUCH GOOD DONE BY NEGRO WELFARE ASSN.

Report Shows Cases of 179 Children Investigated

The Rosenwald committee, of which Mrs. W. W. Clayton is chairman and Mrs. Ernest Squire, secretary, and on which serve Mrs. Guy Bowen, Mrs. J. P. Mulherin, Mrs. W. J. Cranston, John Sylvester and Albert Marsh, gives the following report for the months of October, November and December. The visitor, Willie McNatt Oliver, colored welfare worker, whose salary is paid from funds granted from the Rosenwald fund through the Georgia study negro child welfare, started work on October 1. She acts as probation officer for the juvenile court and Richmond county has given office space and equipment and transportation. A typewriter was purchased through the gift of a negro committee of which Rev. Thompson, of Tabernacle church, is the chairman and on which serve Rev. J. C. Anderson, O. M. Blount, W. S. Hornsby, C. S. Wigfall, Dr. T. S. Josie, secretary; and William Smith.

Cases of 179 children in 56 family groups have been reported to the visitor in the three months. These applications have been from the juvenile court, principals of schools, pastors of churches, physicians, the police department, the ordinary, the other social agencies and appeals from citizens. The requests for service have been for the investigation of guardianship, of parole from the Richmond county reformatory, for investigation of street fights, care and supervision of incorrigible children and care and supervision of dependent children. The visitor has had the co-operation of the other agencies both here and in other cities where requests for investigation of relatives or parents, who had left Augusta, were made at her request and which brought very material help to the dependent families in Augusta. In return she has made investigations in Augusta for other agencies which have been mutually helpful.

Important Position.

The building up of inter-city agency co-operation is one of the most important jobs facing agencies who are attempting to help people today. The population has become so mobile that they find very few families now who have not some members in another city or state.

The objective of the worker is adjusting each child reported so that he may have a safe, good, happy home where he can develop into a useful citizen. The committee works without a relief fund and utilizes the resources of the community to obtain such relief as is necessary.

In addition to the work of the visitor a special group of the committee visited the Richmond county

reformatory with the chairman of the board of that institution and the superintendent of education and the result of the visit was the placing of a teacher in the institution to give the boys there an opportunity to go to school.

The committee meets every other Thursday in the office of the visitor in the court house.

COLORED TEACHER GIVEN JAIL TERM IN JUVENILE COURT

Ten days in jail on a charge of contempt of court were assessed Nellie Randolph, teacher, Thursday by Judge Garland Watkins, of juvenile court, for alleged abuse of street car men. A juvenile court trial in which Joseph Butts, negy boy, was sent to the reformatory for an indefinite time. Butts was charged with slashing a street car motorman with a razor.

Constitution
3-22-27
Atlanta

Georgia

Juvenile Delinquency - 1929

HOW LOUISVILLE, KY. DEALS WITH JUVENILE PROBLEM

Argued
3/29/29
White and Black Work Together to Help the Unfortunates. Forget the Bugbear of Social Equality in Border State

Six Colored Workers Are Engaged and Two Automobiles, Furnished by the City, Are Used

By WILLIAM H. FERRIS, A. M.
Author "The African Aboard".

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Mar. 26. — When Mrs. Fannie R. Givens, the artist and international traveler, informed me last week that if I should visit the Juvenile Court, I would get interesting sociological data, I had no idea of the surprises that awaited me.

When last Thursday morning, I alighted from the trolley at Jefferson Street, passed the County Court building and entered the spacious office of the Juvenile Court, I could hardly believe my eyes. I saw a bookkeeper's desk, a telephone operator's desk, and eight other desks at which clerks and stenographers were sitting. I saw one of the desks occupied by a distinguished looking colored lady of olive complexion. I saw another desk occupied by a bright, wide awake young colored man. And I saw the white department heads and clerks going to the colored department head and colored probation officer and asking question and vice versa.

I went up stairs and saw colored probation officers with a stenographer in two offices, which opened into the main hall. I saw white clerks and stenographers in three offices which opened into the same hall. I saw the white officials going into the offices of the colored officials to ask questions and vice versa. I rubbed my eyes. I asked myself the question "Am I awake or dreaming"? Am I really in a Southern city or am I in a liberal northern city like Boston, Springfield or New York City? Upon inquiring I discovered that

there is a colored department head, who is assisted by four probation officers and one stenographer and that colored officials have absolute jurisdiction of the colored Juvenile court cases. Of the fifty cases, which come up every week, the colored department on an average finds the solution and adjusts twenty cases directly and brings the other thirty cases to Judge Henry I. Fox, who issues a Court order to enforce its suggestions.

I discovered also that Mrs. Margaret B. Lewis, the Director of the Colored Department, has the daily use of a fine car, which was selected by her and was purchased and is maintained by the County.

I discovered also that Mr. Leroy Franklin, the probation officer, also has the use of a car, which was purchased and is maintained by the department.

This, then was my first big surprise to find colored and white court officials working in the same office without any race friction or any talk of social equality either, and that in a city that is south of the Ohio River too.

The Juvenile Court

When the reader learns that \$7063.80 was collected per court order from parents, who were separated from the maintenance of their children in other homes, during the month of February, he can get some idea of the scope of the work of the Juvenile Court. When he learns that the colored department handles on an average of 2,500 cases a year, he can have some understanding of the importance and scope of its work.

The Juvenile Court does several things. It looks after dependent children. It forces the father to maintain his children when he and his wife separate. It provides homes for children when the parent separate and when the mother's job prevents her caring for her children and taxes the father and mother to maintain the child. It takes into custody truant boys and wayward girls. It gives the first youthful offenders another chance and send the incorrigibles to the reformatory.

It fines parents for not sending children to school. It sends to the criminal court and to the work house careless fathers who have de-

serted their wives and will not support their families. In urgency cases, it provides shoes and clothes for children, who do not go to school, because they are not properly clothed, and it provides food and coal for destitute families. The Juvenile Court has as its disposal a Dependent Fund, which is now practically exhausted.

The Juvenile Court is practically a Court of Domestic Relations, because most of its troubles come from a divided home, where each parent expects the other to shoulder the responsibilities.

The big ideals of Juvenile Court are to bring the parents together, to re-establish the home and rebuild lives. When the Juvenile Court arrests the parents, it has a chance to investigate inner home conditions and adjust grievances. In thus re-establishing the home, in placing the child in a proper home when the parents cannot be brought to gether and in endeavoring to transform the character of wayward children, rather than punish them, the Juvenile Court helps the child in the formative period of its life.

A. Typical Case

I saw last Thursday morning one little black boy, 14 years old with keen eyes, determined jaw and musical voice, who was brought into the Juvenile Court. The complaint against him was that he would not stay home and would play truant. He had the reputation of being a bully among the other boys. Mrs. Lewis, Mrs. Lonas and Mr. Franklin saw possibilities in the boy. He had a bright mind, a resolute will, a good heart, a vigorous body and an independent spirit. He has possibilities for good or ill. The problem is to the reformatory, where he would meet other bad boys. But the officials decided to first send him to a home for dependent children, and only use the Reformatory as the court of last resort. Such is the work of the Juvenile Court.

Mrs. Margaret B. Lewis And Her Five Assistants

I thought that there must be something remarkable about the character and personality of the colored officials to hold responsible positions in such an important work as character re-building and to receive the respect and consideration, which they did.

Mrs. Margaret B. Lewis, a fine looking lady of olive complexion, with an intelligent eye and rich contralto voice, the director of the colored department, has a personality to attract attention and command respect. She immediately impressed me as a thoughtful, refined, courteous lady, who had a cool

head, did not get excited over trivialities and possessed reserve force.

She was born and raised in Louisville, Ky. and educated in the Central High School and Normal School of the same city. She did war recreation work and social work with the Parent Teachers' Association. In August 1920, she came to the Juvenile Court as a Probation Officer and had one assistant. She is now director of the colored department with four Probation Officers and one stenographer. She has absolute control of her department and finds the solution of the cases herself.

Her maiden name was Miss Margaret Beulla Daniels. In 1905, she married Eugene Lewis and has a son, who is an interior decorator of Cincinnati, Ohio. She is a member of the Centennial Baptist Church, a member of the Maceo Lodge, an independent lodge, and member of various women's clubs, which do social and charity work.

In her afternoons and leisure hours, Mrs. Lewis has privately pursued the study of law. In one year in a law school, she will finish her course in law.

I attribute Mrs. Lewis remarkable results in bringing parents together, in rebuilding character and adjusting cases to her thoughtful care in studying cases, to her sympathetic understanding of human nature and to her courage in following the course, which she seems the wisest.

Mrs. Georgia Edwards, Mrs. Barbara Lonas, Mrs. Eucridell Hunter and Mr. Leroy Franklin, Probation Officers, and Mrs. Elnora Mitchell, a stenographer, are the five assistants of Mrs. Georgia Edwards has been with the court since its organization in May 1907, when she and Mrs. Bessie L. Allen were the first appointees. For fourteen years, she and Mrs. Allen struggled alone. In twenty three years, Mrs. Edwards has served under six county judges, surviving the change of administrations. She is Superintendent of the Blue Birds and Camp Fire Girls of the St. Matthews Sunday School. For the past eighteen years, she has given a Christmas Tree to the children of the Fort Hill District. Mrs. Barbara Lonas, brilliant and magnetic, a leading singer in the choir of Broadway A. M. E. Zion Tabernacle, has a sympathetic institution which gains the confidence of the child.

Mr. Leroy Franklin serves non-support warrants and warrants for larger boys. In serving warrants for four years, Mr. Franklin has never had to use a black jack or revolver or violence in any form.

The colored officials have the same power to arrest as City Policemen. They arrest parents on warrants and thus have a chance to in-

vestigate inner home conditions Louisville, Ky., has happily solved the problem of colored and white meeting upon the plan of civic and political equality without having the bug-bear of social equality" dangling before its eyes. Both white and colored leaders unite to build a bigger and better Louisville.

Mrs. Barnett Succeeds Mrs. Lonas in Juvenile Court

Argued
3/29/29
Mrs. Cora DeSha Barnett, well known in musical circles, being a singer of renown, has been appointed to a position as probation officer in the Juvenile Court under Judge Henry I. Fox. Mrs. Barnett succeeds Mrs. Barbara Lonas who held the job for a number of years but resigned December 1. Mrs. Barnett is the wife of Mr. David Barnett, well known letter carrier.

COLORED WOMEN OF STATE MAKING DRIVE FOR SCHOOL

Federation of Colored Women's Clubs of Mississippi Seeking
To Arouse Interest in Favor of a Training School for
Delinquent Negro Youths. The Following Report was
Written by a Negro Committee

12 years old. This is especially true in and around our large towns and cities. As we pen these lines we are reminded of a story told just Sunday past. Two boys about the same age but representing different groups, committed like crimes in the same community, and were tried in the same court and at the same time. Both were found guilty—but how different the sentences. One is now in our State Training School with an opportunity to be redeemed. The other was sent to the chain gang to be ruined. One will be an asset to the state—the other a liability. “We fear that Mississippi is little behind other states in providing reformatories for the incorrigible of both races. The late Dr. I. W. Cooper while serving as trustee of the Mississippi Industrial Training School, was interested in our effort and wrote thus: “It is Mississippi’s moral obligation to hear your appeal and grant your request.” We feel that the crime record in the past has been due largely to the lack of opportunity. We find, however, that crime has lessened with the increase of educational advantages and with the work of helpful institutions.”

The whole truth cannot be written for lack of information—but a part suffices: There are in our State Penitentiary today according to figures furnished by an official, 220 Negroes under 21 years of age and 12 of these are females. Many of these young people are there for small offences. Still greater numbers are there because of ignorance. But they must be put up time side by side with hardened criminals and return to society worse citizens than when they left.

Suppose we come closer home. Consult the records of your city and county courts—drive out where the prisoners are repairing the streets, digging ditches, and cleaning out disease infected ponds and cess pools. On almost every trip you will find there, too, young colored boys—sometimes not over

These properties consist of lands and buildings conservatively valued at \$30,000 with no encumbrances. A small faculty will be employed and provision will be made this year to take care of a limited number of boys.

A Drive is now in process for Ten Thousand Dollars which will be completed at our annual meeting to be held at Piney Woods Country Life School, October 23, 24, 25, 1929. This is mentioned simply to show that we are sincere and willing to back up our faith with works. This humble start will not begin to supply the need; and we do not believe the great state of Mississippi would think of permitting us to even attempt to shoulder the responsibility very long. We feel that the fairminded Christian people of Mississippi will appreciate information and the truth. For the cause of humanity, we solicit your prayerful consideration and cooperation in helping to prepare our boys and girls for a better and more useful citizenship. We submit our cause with faith in you.

L. C. Jefferson, Pres. State Federation Colored Women's Clubs
Vicksburg.
R. O. Hubert, Recording Secretary, Jackson.
M. F. Rowan, Financial Secretary, Alcorn College.
E. B. Miller, Chairman of Executive Board, Yazoo City.
B. L. Johnson, Chairman of Committee, Prentiss Institute, Prentiss.

BROOKLYN CITIZEN

JAN 18 1929

The records of the Philadelphia Juvenile Court show a large amount of delinquency among Negro boys, but practically no Negro boys were brought before the court from the Wissahickon district of the city, where a Negro boys' club has been active for twenty-five years. The club now has a membership of 1,200 and a staff of two full time and eight part time paid workers and four volunteers. It owns a clubhouse, valued at \$60,000, which is equipped with a gymnasium, swimming pool, game rooms, and rooms for classes in cooking, carpentry, sign painting, photography, and various other subjects. It also owns a camp with accommodations for sixty boys, where vacations have to be limited to periods of one week because of the number of applicants.

Grace Campbell First in Harlem to Tackle Problem of Unmarried Mother

Started Empire Friendly Shelter, Out of Which Grew Katy Ferguson Home and Place for Delinquent Girls

By THELMA E. BERLACK

Something had to be done—and the thing done reads like fiction. Everybody admitted that the unmarried mother was one of the city's hardest problems, and yet the city made no move to offer her shelter. So Grace Campbell, a pioneer toward a solution, started the Empire Friendly Shelter on West 133d street more than sixteen years ago.

The war came and with it a lack of funds. The Hegeman Home for Colored Girls of funds. The Shelter was closed, Mr. Hegeman former president of but there remained that pressing the Metropolitan Life Insurance need for a home for unmarried Company, bequeathed \$25,000 for that mothers and delinquent girls. purpose. New Rochelle is the place

The Sojourner Truth House, a re-organization of the Shelter, was opened in 1915 in West 130th street. Shortly after that the Katy Ferguson Home was started in the same street. The first mentioned home offered temporary care to girls under 16 in danger of becoming delinquent; the latter, a temporary home continued its work to date at 162 for unmarried mothers and their West 130th street under the direction of Mrs. Estelle Caution. In 1921, they were opened in 1925, but this time under the name of John Truth House closed its doors in it are homelike quarters for 16 girls and eight babies. Only a girl in difficulty for the first time is received. She is taught how to cook, keep

house, care for herself and her baby—all before the baby is born. Each girl is sent to a hospital when the proper time arrives, and after her dismissal from the hospital she stays at the home with her baby until suitable employment is found for her with her baby, or, when it is advisable, until the baby is placed for adoption.

Mrs. Caution's assistants are Miss Geneva Lisby, house matron, who majored in domestic science at Cheyney in Pennsylvania; Miss Marie Curtis, volunteer desk worker, who is studying business at City College, and Mrs. Gladys Walton, daughter of Alderman Fred R. Moore, publicity director.

Among the persons who have donated their services to the home during the year are the following:

Dr. M. Edward Chinn, physician; Mrs. Lillian Glover, dental hygienist; Mrs. Ruth Whaley, attorney-at-law; the Rev. Shelton H. Bishop; Mrs. Blanche K. Thomas, director of music; Mrs. Louise Congo, who teaches the girls sanitation and hygiene; Mrs. Mayer, teach of handicraft.

In her annual report for the year, issued to the board of managers recently, Mrs. Caution stated that the cases cared for in 1928 totaled 84, as against 100 each year previous. The average age of girls taken in the home is 16, although the youngest care is that of a girl who will not be eleven years old until June and her baby is now six weeks old.

Next week I shall tell you how the Katy Ferguson Home is supported; list the sources from which these unmarried mothers come to the home; and name the present board of managers.

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North Carolina.

Rocky Mount, N. C., Telegram
Thursday, February 7, 1929

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY

Seventy-five percent of offenders appearing before the superior courts of North Carolina are white, and a majority are between the ages of 16 and 25, according to Judge W. C. Harris, of Raleigh. This is the most serious indictment of modern youth voiced in recent months, and reflects a situation of extreme gravity. The Negro, who once was the chief offender before courts of superior rank, has reformed to the extent that he is now a minor criminal and seldom goes beyond the lower courts. Similarly, those of both races who have attained the age of discretion are conspicuous by their absence in courts of law.

The answer then to this situation must lie in the home. Roughly, it would appear that as culture and affluence increase in white homes, juvenile delinquency increases. The preponderance of white youths in the dock does not necessarily imply that the Negro has become less of a lawbreaker, as it shows irrefutably that crime is on the increase among members of the white race. By reason of his natural temperament and environment the Negro is usually a trivial offender. The rank and file of the race lacks the initiative to enter crime on a serious scale. Where exceptions are noted to this rule, the offense is usually one of extreme seriousness, such as murder or assault. The bulk of Negro crimes are found to consist of larceny, rum-carrying, fighting, disorderly conduct, etc.

But the modern youth is bound by no such restrictions. It takes crime as a game and plays for high stakes. It tramples the law underfoot for the sake of a thrill. It laughs at sobriety, scoffs at conventions.

The first measure of responsibility must rest upon the home. Parents are to blame for much of this lawless tendency. Lawmakers cannot escape their part. They have made of the law a hopeless skein. They make regulations that no man can help breaking in the ordinary course of a day's business. They have made contemptuous laws and thereby brought all laws into serious contempt. Finally, the courts themselves, or at least an integral part of the court is due for censure. The American jury is in a pitiable state. Only in remote instances can the impartial observer believe that its verdicts are founded upon facts.

Judge Harris' plea for steady improvement of welfare systems and juvenile courts is sound. It will go far toward solving the problem. But nothing will effect a cure until parents are awakened to their duty, and juries are restored to the position intended by the constitution, or abolished en-

tirely. In the parlance of the gridiron, the question is a triple threat.—Wilmington Star.

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Girls Under Care of Women's Club in Modern Home

Sunday, January 13th, was an eventful day in the development of Fairwold Industrial School for girls, at Cayce, S. C. fostered and supported by the State Federation of Colored Women's Clubs. It marked the dedication with appropriate exercises of a well planned, commodious and furnished building featured with a special address by Mrs. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, Vice President of the National Federation of Colored Women's Clubs and President of the Palmer Institute, Sedalia, N. C. This contribution was replete with cheer and inspiration to those who have supported the school with effective results. The speaker was fittingly introduced by Mrs. L. F. Holmes, Florence, Chairman of the Executive Board. Among other participants were Mrs. Etta B. Rowe, President of the State Federation; Rev. J. W. Murph, Pastor of Bethel A. M. E. Church, Columbia; Mrs. M. B. Wilkinson, Chairman of Board of Trustees of Fairwold; Mrs. C. P. McGowan, Chairman State Interracial Committee; Mrs. J. R. Cain, State Interracial Committee; Frank Butler, Chairman of the Building Committee and I. S. Leevy, Chairman of the Local Trustee Board. Bishop K. G. Finlay, of the Episcopal Diocese of upper South Carolina, thru whose efforts the school site was donated, performed the dedicatory services. Music was furnished by a chorus of Fairwold girls, and quartettes of Allen University and Benedict College. An unusually large number of visitors from all portions of the State were present. Many made material as well as furnished financial contributions to the school.

Thru a long felt need, more emphatic during the world war, the Fairwold Industrial School for colored girls was founded in 1916, ten miles from the city of Columbia. The purpose was to offer the unfortunate col-

ored girls of South Carolina a life of Christian cleanliness, industry and uplift. Seventy-five girls have come under the direct influence of this school. Many are sent from the Courts, there being no State reformatory for colored girls. Forty-five have been paroled, entering good homes and schools.

With the exception of two thousand dollars heretofore annually appropriated by the legislature of South Carolina, and five hundred annually from the city of Columbia, the school has been maintained and supported by the South Carolina Federation of Colored Women. In 1926, however, the Legislature withdrew appropriation.

In 1925 and 1926 respectively, the school suffered the loss of both buildings by fire. Since then, thru the kindness of the Episcopal Church, the girls have been housed in St. Mary's Mission, Columbia, S. C.

The new building with furnishings and equipment cost \$10,000, most of which was raised by the State Federation thru local clubs. Among pressing needs of the institution may be listed a cow barn, poultry plant and laundry, that the inmates may be given vocational opportunity in these practical industries and be equipped for useful occupation when discharged. Contributions may be sent to Mrs. M. B. Wilkinson, State College, Orangeburg, S. C.

Plans Discussed For Girls' Home

REVISION MADE IN FAIRWOLD TRUSTEE BOARD

Women Discuss Means of Financing Federation's Work For Year

AT RECENT BOARD MEETING State Meeting to be Held This Month in Florence; Plans Outlined

Orangeburg, S. C., April 19—The Executive Board of the South Carolina Federation of Colored Women's Clubs met Saturday morning, April 13, in the Y. W. C. A. hut on the campus of State College. The members of the Board were called together by the chairman, Mrs. L. F. Holmes of Florence, to discuss ways and means of financing the work of the Federation for the year and to outline a budget for the maintenance of the Fairwold Home for Delinquent Girls located at Cayce, five miles from Columbia.

A revision was made in the trustee board of the Fairwold Home, which would include the district vice-presidents, chairman of the executive board, and treasurer of Fairwold as members of a financial committee. Upon this committee will rest the financial responsibilities of the Fairwold Home.

Members of the board also outlined the program for the Federation which is to be held in Florence, April 26-28. Various departments of the Federation, Educational, Health, Rural Work and others will have some instructive and very helpful plans to offer as their contribution toward the program for this annual meeting. The following members were present: Mrs. L. F. Holmes, Florence; Mrs. O. M. Rodolph, Charleston; Mrs. F. W. Powell, Spartanburg; Mrs. P. M. Gibbs, Charleston; Mrs. H. A. Cornwell, Columbia; Mrs. M. O. Levy, Florence; Mrs. B. E. Vincent, Columbia; Mrs. A. B. McWhirter, Spartanburg; Mrs. H. Pierce, Orangeburg; Mrs. C. A. Embly, Orangeburg, Mrs.

N. McIver, Florence; Mrs. E. B. Rowe, Orangeburg; Mrs. S. D. Butler, Charleston; Mrs. A. LaSaine, Charleston; Mrs. M. B. Wilkinson, Orangeburg; Mrs. J. A. Blanton, Denmark; Mrs. L. R. McGhee, Orangeburg, Mrs. H. L. Menafee, Denmark.

The State president, Mrs. Rowe, announces further that all the clubs are expected to report 100 per cent at Florence in membership dues. At fifty cents per member from all clubs there is no doubt about the continuance of the work.

Brief Sketch of Fairwold School

By JESSE O. THOMAS

Near Columbia, South Carolina is located a school for delinquent colored girls, called Fairwold School. During the World War a large number of Negro soldiers was stationed at Camp Jackson, at Columbia as a result of which the need for some home for delinquent girls became apparent. Governmental aid was sought which had to be accepted by the State of South Carolina. During the process of its passage the word "white" was inserted in the bill. Before the bill was passed through legislation attention was called to this fact and the word "white" was erased but before the bill reached its final stage, this

word had found its way back into the bill and the money received therefrom was used to establish a home for delinquent white girls.

In spite of the fact that the government appropriation was misdirected, a school for delinquent colored girls was established by the South Carolina Federation of Colored Women. Some thirty thousand dollars have been raised by his organization in support of the institution. They boast of about thirty acres of land and a very adequate brick building of three stories.

A group of students from Columbia College who are studying corrective institutions dealing with juvenile delinquency recently made a visit to Fairwold, under the supervision of Dr. Mason Crum, who is giving a course in character education. One of the young white women by the name of Louise Buford, made a report, which appeared in The Columbia Record a few days ago, of the visit of her class, part of which follows:

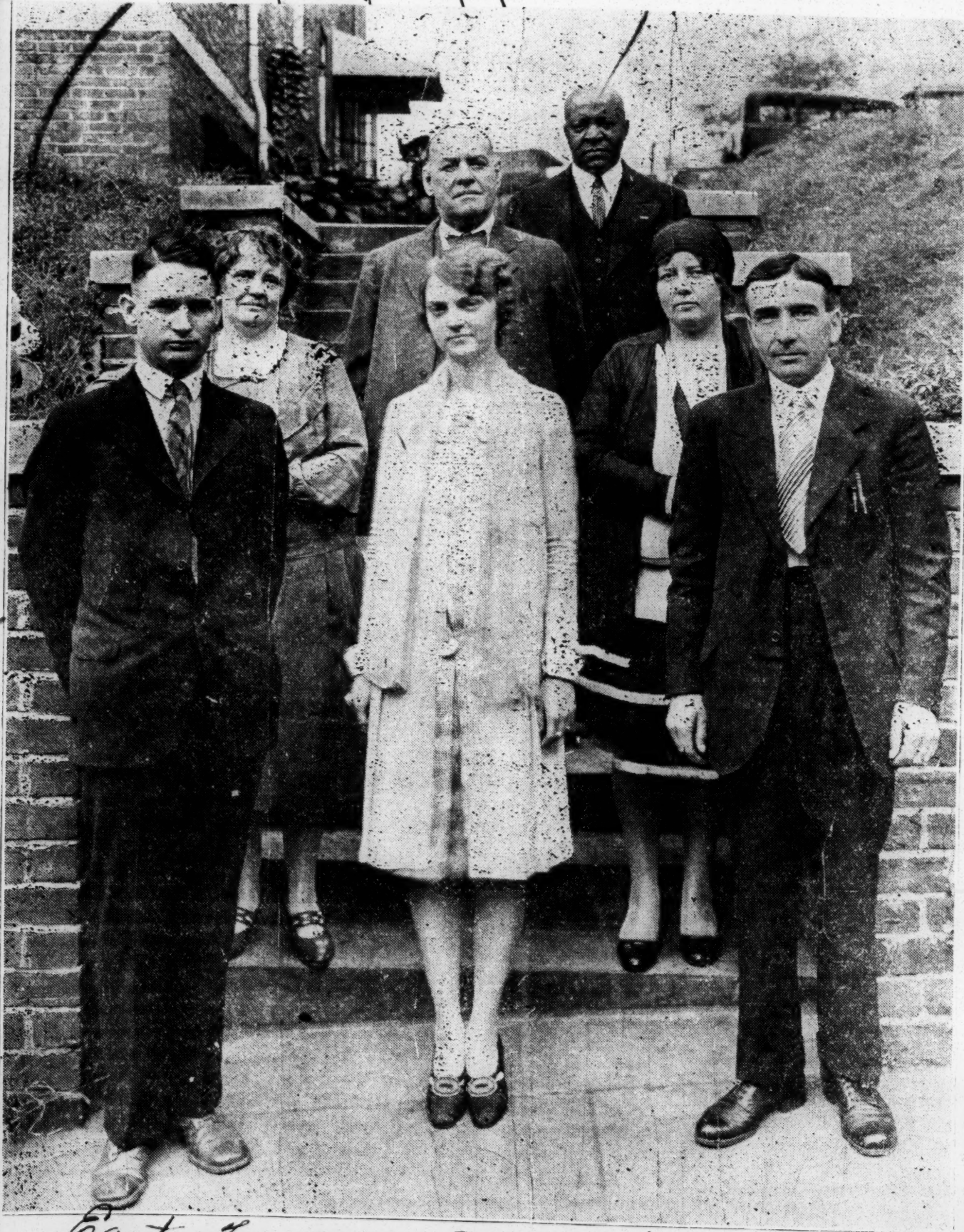
"The South Carolina Federation of Colored Women agreed that they must care for the girls of their own race. In eight years they raised \$30,000 as impossible as it may seem. They bought thirty acres of land about ten miles from Columbia on the old asylum road and built two inadequate shacks. They took in a few girls, but were in great need of money. A few white citizens of Columbia became interested and in 1924 a committee led by Bishop K. G. Finley went down to the legislature, hoping to obtain an appropriation from the state. Bishop Finley related to the legislature the incident which took place in 1916 when all the money was given to the white girls' industrial school, and pleaded that it was their duty to give aid to Fairwold. As a result of this visit, an annual appropriation of \$2,000 was made to the school until this year, when Governor Richards vetoed the bill.

A year or two ago the school burned and it seemed impossible for it to be rebuilt, but the Episcopal church through the efforts of Bishop Finley, gave a piece of land about three miles from Columbia and gave contributions toward rebuilding it. The new Fairwold is a very adequate three-story brick building. I think it is interesting to note that one of the rooms in the home is called the Finley room in appreciation of the efforts of Bishop Finley in behalf of the school.

Fairwold has barely existed, but in spite of lack of funds good work goes on there. It seems unfair that delinquent colored girls should

not receive aid from the state, while it provides to some extent for its delinquent white boys and girls and for its delinquent Negro boys. It also seems strange that the judges of South Carolina court should commit these girls to Fairwold, yet the state does not provide for their upkeep. The state soothes its conscience, so to speak, by saying that it is financially unable to establish a school for colored girls, and has discontinued the small annual contribution on the ground that tax money should not go to upkeep private institutions. The colored people are hard put to support the school, although the colored people from all over the state contribute all that they are able to. The city of Columbia gives \$300 a year to the school to help provide for the girls from Columbia. The physicians of Columbia render free medical service to the school.

As has been said Fairwold is in great need of money, and its existence depends upon the citizens of South Carolina. The good which it does cannot be doubted. Should not the state of South Carolina take up its responsibility and care for these unfortunate ones?



The picture was taken in front of the Detention Home at the corner of Henley and Clinch streets. In the front row, reading left to right, is Hon. Hu B. Webster, judge of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court; the secretary of the court, Miss Margaret Bennett; and Chief Probation Officer Grover C. Vandergriff.

Second row, Miss Lillian Goddard, probation officer who looks after all cases of delinquent girls and Miss Inez Giffin, who has charge of dependent cases. Officer John B. Vick, in the next row looks after the non-support cases and just behind Mr. Vick is Officer J. Ed Flack, probation officer in charge of all cases involving youths of the Colored racial group.

MEMPHIS, TENN.

PRESS-SCIMITAR

NOV 28 1929

COUNTY TO URGE AID FOR INSANE

Delegation Also to Ask More Room for Negro Girls

Enlargement of the state reformatory at Nashville and state hospital or insane at Bolivar will be urged by the Shelby delegation when the legislature meets in December.

This assurance has been given city and county officials by John Brown and Carl Larsen, two members of the Shelby delegation.

"The state should take over the county's insane and provide adequate room for delinquent negro girls sent up from the city and county juvenile courts," Larsen said.

Richard Lyle, state commissioner of institutions, notified Judge Camille Kelley Wednesday that there is no room for additional negro girls at the state reformatory.

"The insane situation and quarters for delinquent negro girls is a state matter and one that must be attended to immediately," Brown said.

Last Legislature authorized \$500,000 for enlarging and improving state institutions, but the money has never been appropriated, the governor saying state funds are too low.

Take County's Insane

There was a verbal agreement between Lyle and Shelby county commissioners that when the money was appropriated \$300,000 of it would go to enlarge the state hospital at Bolivar, and that the state would then take over the county's insane patients.

"Our delegation certainly will try to get that money appropriated without delay," Brown promised. "Shelby county should no longer be asked to care for its insane."

Hale believes Lyle can be persuaded to spend \$50,000 enlarging the reformatory.

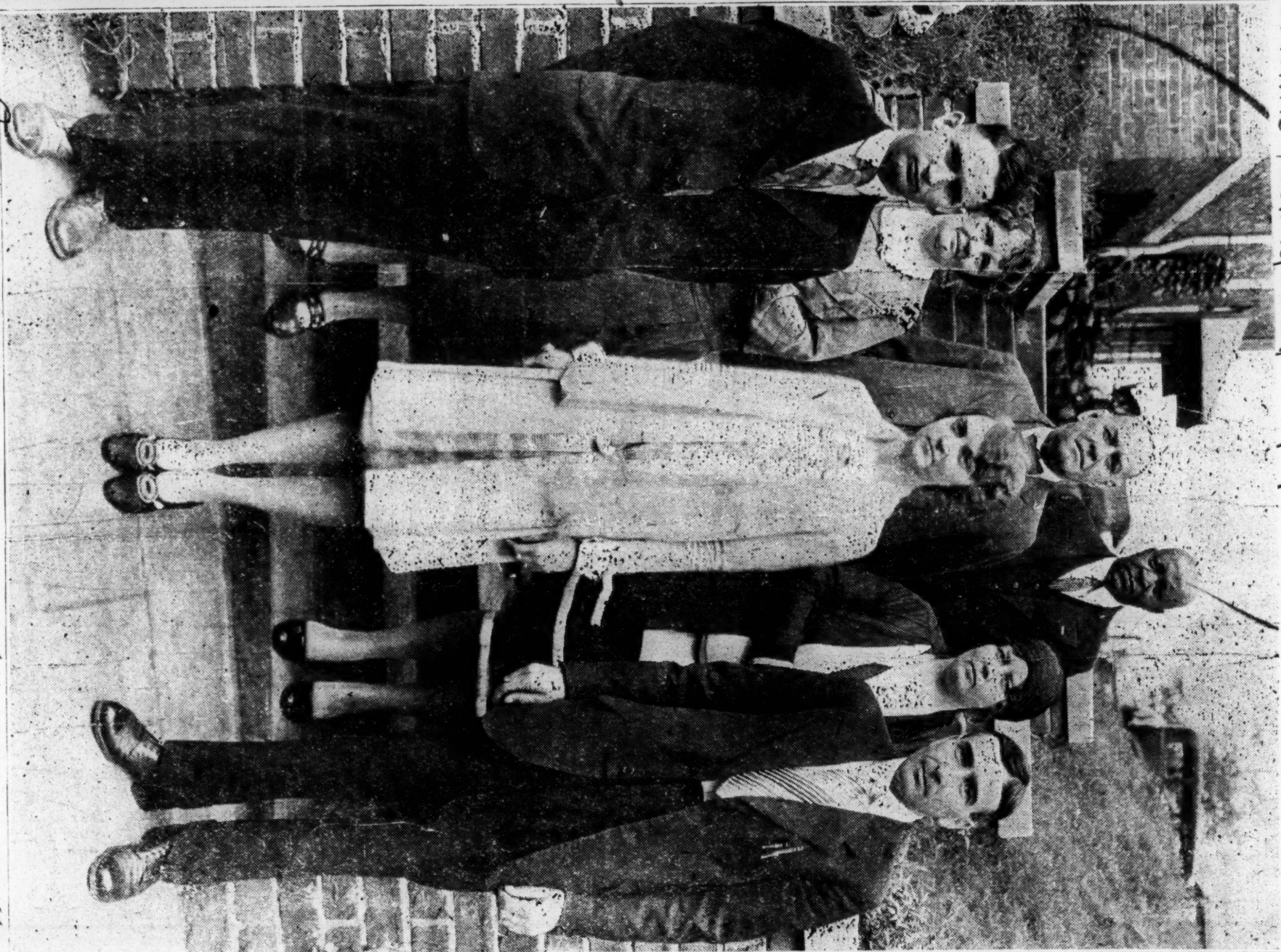
Need Reformatory Room

"When Lyle assured us \$300,000 would go to enlarge the Bolivar institution, he said the other \$200,000 would go to improve other state institutions," Hale said. "He surely realizes the need of more room at the reformatory."

Hale expects to go to Nashville before the Legislature meets to take the matter up with Lyle.

Because the money has already been authorized it will not be necessary to have the governor include in his call for a special session of the Legislature the matter of appropriating the money. Brown said

Knox county is fortunate in having as its judge and officials in charge of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court a group of efficient, well trained, courteous officials who are vitally interested in the many cases that come before that very important institution. The large number of delinquent boys and girls that appear there receive the earnest interest of the judge and workers and many of them have been recovered from predicaments that would have led to ruin had it not been for the efforts in their behalf on the part of the group of the workers appearing above.



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Juvenile Delinquency - 1929

STATE HOME FOR DELINQUENT GIRLS

If the present called session of the Texas legislature wishes to perform a distinct and signal service to the state and society, it can complete the work it began in 1927 when the legislative body of this state voted to establish a training school for delinquent colored girls in Texas.

While this institution has been created by legislative action, the legislature has failed to provide an appropriation for the home, the sum of \$100,000 having been requested to cover cost of physical plant, equipment, salaries and maintenance for two years.

The state of Texas has not been called upon to provide the land for this home, the sponsors of the movement having assured the governor and legislators that the site will be obtained without any financial obligation or responsibility on the part of the legislature, representing the Lone Star State commonwealth.

No better and more far-reaching service could be rendered the state and social order than such an institution; for delinquent girls are a constant menace to society, being easy prey to crime and social diseases.

When these girls commit some offense or go astray, they should be committed to some institution where they can be saved and reclaimed, instead of being incarcerated in jails, prisons and behind penal walls, or permitted to roam the streets.

The duty of the state, as the representative of decent and orderly society, is to save rather than destroy its citizens, and thus other agencies must be pressed into service to augment the efforts of the home, church and school in safeguarding and protecting the interests of all the people.

If white girls, with all their superior advantages and opportunities, need such homes, one can readily see how badly colored girls, with no such advantages and steadying influences, need such an institution.

If any of the legislators are prejudiced against the appropriation because the proposed home will serve colored girls, let him or them bear in mind that no chain is stronger than its weakest link, and that society can never rise higher than its lowest member.

As long as the colored race has a bumper crops of criminals and parasites; as long as the black race is afflicted with ignorance, superstition and resultant ills and evils; as long as the state ignores and slights the members of this unfortunate and disadvantaged race, just so long will the state be menaced as a result of its dereliction along this and other lines.

As citizens of Texas, The Informer suggests that our people write the members of the legislature from their respective districts and urge upon them the vital importance of the legislature providing ample funds for the erection, equipping and maintenance of a training school for delinquent colored girls in Texas.

Texas.

POST-DISPATCH
HOUSTON, TEX.

APR 29 1929

Training School for Colored Girls

THE Texas Commission on Inter-Racial Co-Operation is responsible for bringing to public attention a fact that, perhaps, is not generally known to the people generally of the State. That is, there is no place to which colored girls between the ages of 7 and 18 years can be sent for correction and punishment, when they commit offenses.

There are training schools for both boys and girls of the white race who are found to be delinquent, or guilty of crime. There is a training school, likewise, for colored boys of that type. But, strange to relate, colored girls are not provided for. Regardless of the seriousness of their offense, they can not be sent to the penitentiary if they are less than 17 years of age. They may be kept in jail, if convicted, for a short time, but assuredly a short jail sentence is of no benefit to a criminally inclined colored girl, and does not afford adequate protection to society from the menace of that class of girls running at large.

The absence of an institution to which sub-normal, delinquent and criminal females of the colored race might be sent for training and reformation, surely amounts to a serious defect in our penal and correctional system in this State, and it is a short-sighted policy to continue to neglect the problem created by the unfortunate class referred to.

Merely as a matter of self-defense for the white race, the immoral, criminal, colored girl, often physically diseased as well as afflicted with an unwholesome mental outlook, should be segregated and given a chance to grow into a useful member of society. Many of the girls of this type are employed in homes as maids, nurses and other position of service in which they come into close daily contact with members of white families. They may be disease carriers, and they may exert a deleterious influence on white children in homes in which they are employed.

Furthermore, it is a rank discrimination against these girls themselves and against the colored race not to provide a training school with reformatory aims for them. As well as being unsound public policy, it is unfair, to neglect them.

Only \$100,000 is being asked of the legislature to cover the cost of securing a plant and equipment, and salaries of officials for the first two years. Land in a properly located section of the State will be available without cost if money for the building and equipment shall be provided. The sum required is comparatively

so small and the need for the institution is so urgent, there would seem to be little reason to expect opposition to the project.

GALVESTON, TEX.

Memo

MAY 4 1929

NEED OF A TRAINING SCHOOL FOR NEGRO GIRLS.

Negro girls under 18 years of age are virtually immune from punishment for violating the law in Texas, because the state has no house of correction to which they may be sent. For adult offenders there are the penitentiaries; for white and negro boys there are training schools. There is also a training school for white girls, but the state has made no provision whatever for negro girls. The courts can do little to assist in overcoming their delinquency in the absence of any provision for enforcing a sentence of detention.

Attention is called to this deplorable condition in a leaflet being circulated by the Texas Commission on Inter-Racial Co-Operation. The object of the leaflet is to enlist public sentiment in behalf of a state appropriation to provide a training school for colored girls. Two years ago the legislature authorized the establishment of such a school, but no money was appropriated. The forty-first legislature is being asked to appropriate \$100,000 for that purpose.

The need should be apparent. Inability of the state to reach this class of juvenile offenders creates a danger to society as well as being an injustice to the negro citizenship. The influence of a criminally inclined minor is demoralizing in any group of society. The state fails in its duty to law breakers of any class when it neglects to exert itself for their reformation. In fostering the proposed training school for negro girls the Texas Commission on Inter-Racial Co-Operation should have the support of both races.

Juvenile Delinquency - 1929

NEWS

Suffolk - Va

FEB 1 1929

BE MERCIFUL TO THE POOR

An exchange tells the story of two Negro boys who were caught on the right of way of a great railway company, engaged in picking up lumps of coal scattered along the tracks and depositing them in a bag slung across their shoulders. The ubiquitous railway detective or special officer saw what was going on, arrested the pair and hauled them to the court on the double charge of trespass and stealing coal from the company mentioned in the story. Although they were juveniles, the eldest fifteen years of age, they were thrown into jail with hardened criminals where they remained until their case could be called and disposed of. The kindly (?) judge fined them on both charges and the parents of the children paid their last dime and all they could borrow to get them out of their surroundings and back in the family circle.

Technically these boys had violated the law of the commonwealth as charged. But no judge with a heart in his body or a spark of humanity in his soul would send a child to jail for picking up what appeared to him waste along the right of way of a railroad company. There are few grown people who know that it is trespass to enter upon the property of a railway company and still fewer that it is stealing to gather the coal that falls

from passing trains. Every child, however, knows that it is theft to take coal or other property from a railroad car.

This newspaper does not believe that there is a railroad corporation in Virginia that would condone on the part of their special officers the dragging of juveniles to court and throwing them into jail for the offense mentioned. But some officers are so anxious to make a "record" and prove their worth that they will arrest an infant in order to prove to their employers that they are "on the job." It makes their weekly report look better when it shows so many arrests and so many convictions in a given time.

The News-Herald is glad that this community has a different type of railroad detective and courts of bigger calibre than those of the city referred to above. The idea of throwing a mere child into jail or penalizing his parents on a day like this for gathering the coal that lines the right of way of a railroad track is so repulsive to a sense of justice and mercy that those responsi-

Virginia.

ble for it would lose caste in the community instantly. Why cannot officers and courts be merciful to the poor and lowly when their offenses are so trivial as compared with malefactors, who walk the streets daily unashamed and unafraid although they know they are law breakers?

MAR 16 1929

GRATIFYING RESULTS

In a statement recently released by the State Public Welfare Society it was pointed out that the number of Negro delinquents and dependents in state institutions and agencies is decreasing. There is given a comparison of Virginia statistics with those of Georgia as reported by Professor Hugh Fuller, associate professor of moral research and social science at the University of Virginia.

Professor Fuller's report on Georgia jail commitments reveals that in 1921 Negro commitments in Georgia amount to 66% of the total commitments, whereas in 1927 they amounted to 55%. In Virginia in 1913, the Negro commitments number 63% of the total, while for the year 1928 they were but 56% of the total commitments. In Georgia the percentage of Negroes to the whole population is 42% and in Virginia they constitute 30% of the total population. In 1921, of the new commitments to the Virginia penitentiary, 70% were Negroes whereas in 1928 only 54% were Negroes, or a falling off of 16%. The same proportionate decrease in the number of Negro delinquents and dependents is shown in Virginia in the commitments to the State Department of Public Welfare by the juvenile and domestic relations courts.

Reduction of the Negro population in the charitable and correctional institutions of the state represents a tremendous saving in money as the cost of preventive and remedial service of public welfare in the communities where the reduction is effected is negligible compared with the cost of institutional care, review of the report declares. All of which goes to prove the contention that preventive welfare work is not only the humane but the economical way. Education and mental training back in the communities, combined with the application of preventive medicine not only reduces the number of delinquents and dependents but makes for better citizenship, turning what has been a liability into a community and state asset.

NEGRO DELINQUENTS IN STATE DECREASE

Drop is Also Shown in Number of
Dependants Among Blacks. State
Saves as Result

By Carter Wormeley

That the number of Negro delinquents and dependents in state institutions and agencies is decreasing was clearly indicated in figures released by the State Department of Public Welfare, following a comparison of Virginia statistics with those of a recent report of jail commitments in Georgia made by Professor Hugh Fuller, Associate Professor of Research in Social Science at the University of Virginia, formerly with the Georgia Department of Public Welfare. Professor Fuller's report on Georgia jail commitments reveals that in 1921 Negro commitments in Georgia amounted to 66% of the total commitments, whereas in 1927 they amounted to 55%. In Virginia in 1913, the Negro commitments numbered 63% of the total, while for the year 1928 they were but 56% of the total commitments. In Georgia the percentage of Negroes to the whole population is 42% and in Virginia they constitute 30% of the total population. In 1921, of new commitments to the Virginia Penitentiary, 70% were Negroes whereas in 1928 only 54% were Negroes, or a falling off of 16%.

The same proportionate decrease in the number of Negro delinquents and dependents is shown in Virginia in the commitments to the State Department of Public Welfare by the juvenile and domestic relations courts.

The reduction in the Negro population in the charitable and correctional institutions of the State represents a tremendous saving in money as the cost of the preventive and remedial services of public welfare in the communities where the reduction is effected is negligible compared with the cost of institutional care.

Richmond, Va., News-Leader
Wednesday, March 13, 1929

DECREASE IS SEEN IN VA. DEPENDENTS

Figures on Negroes in State Institutions Released by Department.

By CARTER WORMELEY.

That the number of Negro delinquents and dependents in state institutions and agencies is decreasing was clearly indicated in figures released today by the state department of public welfare, following a comparison of Virginia statistics with those of a recent report of jail commitments in Georgia made by Professor Hugh Fuller, associate professor of research in social science at the University of Virginia, formerly with the Georgia department of public welfare.

Professor Fuller's report on Georgia jail commitments reveals that in 1921 Negro commitments in Georgia amounted to 66 per cent. of the total commitments, whereas in 1927 they amounted to 55 per cent. In Virginia in 1913, the Negro commitments numbered 63 per cent. of the total, while for the year 1928 they were but 56 per cent. of the total commitments. In Georgia the percentage of Negroes to the whole population is 42 per cent. and in Virginia they constitute 30 per cent. of the total population. In 1921, of new commitments to the Virginia penitentiary, 70 per cent. were Negroes, whereas in 1928 only 54 per cent. were Negroes, or a falling off of 16 per cent.

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Newport News, Va

Jan 14 1929

NEGRO DELINQUENCY IMPROVING.

The negro race in Virginia can take pride in the fact that the number of negro delinquents and dependents in the institutions of this State is steadily decreasing. Figures compiled by the State Department of Public Welfare show that not only are conditions improving in this State and elsewhere in the South, but that the improvement in Virginia is more marked than in other communities.

A report by Professor Hugh Fuller, of the University of Virginia, on Georgia jail commitments reveals that in 1921 negro commitments in Georgia amounted to 66 per cent of the total commitments, whereas in 1927 they amounted to 55 per cent. In Virginia in 1913, the negro commitments numbered 63 per cent of the total, while for the year 1928 they were but 56 per cent of the total commitments. In Georgia the per centage of negroes to the whole population is 42 per cent and in Virginia they constitute 30 per cent of the total population. In 1921, of new commitments to the Virginia Penitentiary, 70 per cent were negroes whereas in 1928 only 54 per cent were negroes, or a falling off of 16 per cent.

The same proportionate decrease in the number of negro delinquents and dependents is shown in Virginia in the commitments to the State Department of Public Welfare by the juvenile and domestic relations courts.

These figures are, in our opinion, an excellent index of the value of the preventive and remedial services which have been undertaken in Georgia and in Virginia during the past few years. The initial cost of saving a boy or a girl from crime is negligible as compared with the cost of caring for a hardened criminal or attempting to reform one, and the day is coming when we will pay even more attention to this phase of the crime problem than we do at present.

Not all the credit for this work, however, is due our public officials, for the negroes themselves have contributed materially to the progress which is noted herein. The churches, the schools, the social and fraternal organizations and the leaders of the negro race all are due a share of the credit and if these continue to work hand in hand with the State the improvement during the next eight years should be even more marked than that of the past eight, for many of the undertakings in the interest of the welfare of the negro race still are in their infancy.